

support and encouragement for their efforts to achieve treatments and a cure.

INTRODUCING THE "AMATEUR
RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICA-
TIONS CONSISTENCY ACT"

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act," a bill that seeks to ensure the continued viability of a volunteer public safety resource which has been instrumental in providing our nation emergency communications services during times of disaster and crisis. I am pleased that the gentleman from Oregon, Representative WALDEN, and the gentleman from Texas, Representative SESSIONS are co-sponsors of this bipartisan legislation. Radio amateurs, more commonly known as "ham" operators, provide emergency communications when regular channels are disrupted or disabled. These federally licensed volunteers operate at their own expense in aiding government and private relief agencies. State and local governments, as well as disaster relief agencies, could not possibly afford to replace the services that radio amateurs dependably provide for free. For the hundreds of thousands of amateur radio licensees, there is a growing challenge to their ability to provide these public services.

Developed communities, such as retirement communities and planned unit subdivisions, are an increasingly popular housing option throughout the country that provide a wide range of convenient housing choices. Unfortunately, the governance of these communities has led to inconsistent and at times burdensome regulations on amateur radio operators, making it extremely difficult for these operators to continue providing their valuable services. The legislation I am introducing today will simply ensure consistent application of these regulations.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act is based upon a 1985 ruling by the Federal Communications Commission, which stated that homeowners, seeking to install some form of antenna on their own property, must work with state and local land use officials to determine the most appropriate size antenna. Good faith negotiations ensure that amateur radio operator's technical needs are met, while preserving the aesthetics and interests of a neighborhood.

Under current law, the FCC does not apply this policy consistently. Its policy applies to States and localities, but fails to address situations affecting private land use groups. My bill addresses this issue, and provides amateur radio licensees with the ability to negotiate reasonable accommodation provisions with homeowners' associations, just as they do now with public land-use regulators.

Amateur radio operators provide an invaluable service to our nation, ensuring communication services during emergencies. We must support the efforts of the 650,000 federally licensed amateurs around the country in earnest. The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act will help to protect the vital function of Amateur Radio as an

emergency communications and public safety resource, and I urge my colleagues to join with me in supporting this legislation.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
PRINCIPAL PATRICIA GEISTER
FROM MOREAU CATHOLIC HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patricia Geister on the day of her retirement as Principal of the Moreau Catholic High School in Hayward, California.

For 16 years, Patricia Geister has served the Moreau Catholic High School as principal. Her dedication to excellence in education is evident in the visionary improvements that have resulted from her years as school principal.

By improving student programs, updating facilities, making institutional changes, and enhancing the faculty, Patricia Geister assured every student at Moreau a top-quality education.

During her tenure, the Ivaldi Student Center was completed; the availability of technology and other educational resources to students, faculty and staff was increased; and a safe campus environment was maintained. The number of Advanced Placement courses offered at the school increased from 4 to 14, the college preparatory curriculum was revamped and class size was reduced. A collegiate-style, alternate day schedule was introduced, providing students with an early introduction to collegiate life, and a competitive edge when applying to colleges.

Patricia Geister introduced a student support system to the administration, which tasks assistant principals and counselors with making sure that every student need is fulfilled and nurtured. In 1987, she implemented the school's mission statement, and over the years she has furthered the relationship between Moreau Catholic and the Brothers of Holy Cross, and strengthened the school's relationship with its Catholic elementary schools.

During her tenure, the school received maximum accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges in 1988, 1994, and 2000. In 2000, Patricia Geister implemented the school's Expected Schoolwide Learning Results.

I am honored to join the colleagues of Patricia Geister in commending her for her many years of dedicated service to the Moreau Catholic High School. Her commitment to excellence in education is truly an inspiration to all.

CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend seven dedicated teachers from Northwest Indiana have been voted outstanding educators by their peers for

the 2001-2002 school year. These individuals, Joyce Abbott, Laura Marzotto, Danny Chapman, Carole Selund, Patricia Premetz, Ben Geesa and Kay Harness will be presented with the Crystal Apple Award at a reception sponsored by the Indiana State Teachers Association. This event will take place at the Andorra Restaurant and Banquets in Schererville, Indiana, on Wednesday, May 15, 2002.

Joyce Abbott, from the Crown Point Community School Corporation, has taught music for 17 years at Solon Robinson Elementary School. The love and passion that Joyce has for music, both personally and professionally, is demonstrated through the creativity and enthusiasm that she projects, in order to inspire not only the students, but also the teachers at Solon Robinson Elementary School.

Laura Marzotto has only been with the Hanover Community School Corporation for three years, but she is a great addition to Hanover Central High School. When Laura first came to Hanover Central as a teacher in the Business Department, a marketing program was nonexistent. Yet as a result of her tireless efforts, a marketing track has been initiated, a program through which students can take a variety of marketing courses. Additionally, students are able to receive college credit through Ivy Tech State College after successfully completing required proficiencies.

A dedicated science teacher in the School Town of Highland for more than 30 years, Danny Chapman is a role model, an inspiration to his students, and an outstanding professional. Dan is a wonderful caring teacher who frequently offers a wide variety of activities and learning experiences to supplement the curriculum. The most notable, and perhaps most challenging experience, includes a three day/two night field trip to the Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center in Porter, Indiana. Here, students were involved in science-based activities for three days. Since 1994, Dan has served as co-sponsor for the Science Olympiad Team at Highland High School. Additionally, he is the Science Teacher for the Adult Education program for GED classes at Highland, a position he has held since 1996.

A professional educator for thirty-six years in the Lake Central School Corporation, Carole Selund is a valuable asset. Carole has taught both Spanish and English to freshmen and sophomores at Lake Central High School. Since Carole is conscientious about having her students meet the standards expected of them, she returned to college to earn a Master's degree in Reading and created the first curriculum in the Lake Central School Corporation to address individual reading problems in the student population. In addition, Carole is very active in the School Corporation. She has co-chaired a number of committees for the Performance Based Accreditation Committee and served on the North Central Accreditation Committee.

Twenty-three years ago, Patricia Premetz was hired to teach honors Geometry at Munster High School. She is described by her peers as an outstanding professional and dedicated teacher. For the past three and one-half years, Patricia has been the Department Chairperson and is now teaching honors PreCalculus. Her enthusiasm for the subject matter, as well as her teaching style, has withstood the test of time. Patricia makes learning an enjoyable experience, for she blends her